

Message Text

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14

ORIGIN ARA-20

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:JRBURKE/GBHIGH:AC

APPROVED BY ARA:JBKUBISCH

ARA/MEX:CPTORREY (DRAFT)

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R 242324Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 210288

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCOM, US,MX

SUBJECT: VISIT AND SPEECH BY PUERTO RICAN GOVERNOR

REF: STATE 208007; MEXICO 7959

1. DEPARTMENT'S AIM IN PROPOSING THAT AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANY GOVERNOR ON CALLS ON PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA AND SECRETARY RABASA WAS TO REAFFIRM AMBASSADOR'S ROLE IN EYES OF GOM AS PRINCIPAL USG REPRESENTATIVE IN MEXICO AND TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE HIGHEST ELECTED OFFICIAL OF PUERTO RICO WAS BEING ACCORDED SAME COURTESIES AND ATTENTION THAT HIGH LEVEL FEDERAL OFFICIALS AND GOVERNORS FROM ANY OF THE FIFTY STATES WOULD ENJOY IN CONNECTION WITH A SIMILAR VISIT. FURTHERMORE, WE HAVE MAINTAINED IN OUR CONTACTS WITH OFFICIALS OF THE PUERTO RICAN GOVERNMENT THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE IF GOVERNOR'S TRIPS WERE CLOSELY COORDINATED WITH US IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT TIMING AND SUBSTANCE BE CONSISTENT WITH ANY INITIATIVES OR EFFORTS USG MAY BE ATTEMPTING IN GIVEN REGION OR COUNTRY. SINCE THIS WOULD BE THE GOVERNOR'S FIRST TRIP ABROAD WE FELT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ESTABLISH GROUND RULES ACCEPTABLE BOTH TO

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STATE DEPT AND THE GOVERNOR.

2. IN VIEW OF SITUATION PREVAILING IN MEXICO AS INDICATED
IN PARA 2 OF YOUR 7959, WE SHALL PASS THIS WORD TO
GOVERNOR HERNANDEZ COLON, SUGGESTING HIS ASSISTANTS GET
IN TOUCH WITH POLITICAL COUNSELOR. GOVERNOR'S FURTHER

VISITS CAN BE HANDLED ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS DEPENDING
ON LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES. KISSINGER

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